

# Daughters of Eve.

## SPRING WRAPS AND PARASOLS.

### Parasols.

Parasols are not much carried until June has fairly set in, but sun umbrellas and coaching parasols are an absolute necessity before April is over. There was a happy time when parasol and umbrella could be used for one and the same thing, made medium size and in silk it could be carried alike for sun and rain. But one of the absolute requirements of a woman's wardrobe in these times is a number of parasols, and one or more rain umbrellas. Not to omit: Oh dear no. The lending of umbrellas or parasols is quite contrary to the rules of etiquette of feminine friendship. The umbrellas shown this spring are of plain colors or shaded silk. I saw one the other day of a shaded green which exactly matched the shaded green costume with which it was to be carried. The costume was of cheviot and the only difference between the umbrella and the cloth was that it was covered with silk, on the different material of course was not precisely the same color. Some of the shops undertake to cover an umbrella for a dollar, but the material in such a case



BROWN VELVET SILK AND CREAM LACE.

is of very thin silk or silk and cotton mixed and is not satisfactory for anything but protection from the rain. A year ago an epidemic of blue umbrellas with blue handles resembling lapis lazuli swept over the country. Never had so many umbrellas of precisely the same appearance, and a great deal of hard feeling has been displayed in public conveyances by women carrying umbrellas so identical in every particular that the owner would not have distinguished between them. These same blue umbrellas have worn remarkably well and are still carried by many, but the new ones are so much prettier it will not be long before they disappear. The newest ones are bright red with natural wood handle or with silver top at the end of the handle on which the monogram is engraved. It has taken women a long time to realize the advisability of dressing in a becoming way on rainy days, but they have awakened to the fact of the importance of so doing and these red umbrellas cast a very becoming shade over any complexion and are really very charming among the hosts of black, brown and dull colored ones.

The parasols are marvels of beauty and taste. Expensive, but very durable, are all kinds and descriptions, and even the cheap ones are dainty and pretty enough for anyone to carry. The novelty parasols are of course the most expensive and handsomest. A white moire parasol trimmed with Point de Gue or Chantilly lace and with white enamel handle and stick is a very desirable thing to possess, but a white parasol of brocade or even such silk can be trimmed with plastré or any kind of cheap lace and is handsome enough to wear almost any costume for summer wear.

Colored crepon is a beautiful material for parasols. In daffodil yellow and sea green, light blue and gray they look indescribably soft and artistic in coloring and when opened are also extremely pretty. The place where they make up to look very well and grace silk comes in every color of the rainbow this season. It looks harsh when trimmed with Chantilly lace, but is very much used to soften and tone down the crude effects. Black, which has been so much worn all winter, will still remain a very favorite color this spring. In anticipation of this fact the shop keepers have provided themselves with a beautiful assortment of black parasols. All the different laces, crepons, surahs, moires, tulle, guipure, crepon, and even green grain silk are used to cover the new shapes, which are invariably made with long handles.

Some of the parasols are made to begin with, of silk, and are covered with ruffles of graduated width to the very stick itself, where they finish off with a full ruche and a bow of ribbon; in and out of the flounces are put little knots of narrow baby ribbon and the whole effect is light and fluffy. In the case of white parasols this use of ruffles is a great advantage because with only the silk itself, the sun light is very disagreeable and very low. Lining made of thin rose pink silk is sometimes used by women who want to have their complexions look fresh and young.

Parasols of the fancy colored silks striped or figured are the cheapest and they are really within reach of everyone. They wear well and can be had in a great variety of patterns. The natural wood handles or even the Dresden handles are prettiest with this type of parasol. The old time parasol with the carved ivory handle and of fine black lace over white silk or with the coral handle which were in vogue at the time of the Empress Eugenie,

will it is said, be once more in fashion this summer, with those who are always not only up to date, but a little ahead. Ivory and coral are certainly the fashion and there never has been any handle so pretty as ivory or coral when artistically carved, but celluloid imitations will doubtless soon flood the shops, and then good-bye to the original fashion.

### WRAPS.

A little rumor was whispered about some few weeks ago to the effect that big sleeves were doomed and many a woman took fresh heart again and fondly and deludingly thought she would be able to have two new gowns instead of one, as so much less material would be needed for the sleeves. The latest fashions would seem to prove that the rumor was an idle one, absolutely without foundation. What the sleeves do not stand up to such a height, they are quite as full and take up every whit as much room in the coats. It is almost impossible to wear any coat over dressy spring costumes with the slightest comfort. A wrap is the only thing possible, and wraps are in consequence seen everywhere. In light weight velvet, in silk, bengaline, moire and lace, the wraps are made. They all stand out almost straight from the neck like cherub wings, and give every one a very hunched up appearance. Some are trimmed with lace, and some with insertion, some are ruffled all the way up or down as the case may be, and the prettiest and most dangerous to health are merely very deep collars either pointed or round. In tan cloth or gray crepon, wraps are often made trimmed with white lace or black and with a full ruche of crepe about the throat inside the collar, which is of course daring.

The evening wraps are more beautiful this spring than for many years past and can be made of inexpensive materials to look almost as well as the superb brocades and other heavy fabrics. The Misses Del Monte who are very prominent in fashionable society and who always dress alike, have this spring ivory colored long full cloaks for covering which are exceedingly handsome. They are made on what might be called the improved circular shape, and are very long and full. They have stiff round shoulder caps of ivory moire velvet covered all over with tiny gilt spangles and bordered



BLACK SATIN WHITE LACE AND NOIRE.

with a band of beaver fur. Inside the full, high collar are very full ruffles of light heliotrope, which give an odd and becoming finish. Miss Cameron, the eldest daughter of Sir Frederick Cameron wears over her evening gown a picturesque garment of pale gray satin brocade. It is made with enormous sleeves and a full Watteau pleat in the back, with full straight fronts and is finished around the neck and down the front with light gray ostrich feather tips. Such a garment needs careful cutting and fitting to avoid a bulky and unbecoming appearance, but Miss Cameron has been cut and fitted perfectly and is in the hands of a very slender stylish figure. This style of wrap really looks very much like a tea gown but nevertheless is a very sensible pattern. It can be made in a dark material or in any light cloth or cashmere. There really does not seem to be any absolute model to follow in wraps for afternoon and evening wear provided they stick out straight over the shoulders and are becoming, two facts which would seem to be in direct contradiction but with any care, taste and ingenuity a little study as to one's good points, the very old-fashioned of the present day can always be modified to look well, and individual taste has never had such an opportunity to show itself as now. ANHELM.

Paris, March 24.—Anglomani, according to society reports, is the great malady of the moment in France. It appears that in all social functions, as far as possible, French women are taking English women for their models. They entertain a l'Anglaise, dress to



HUNTING RIG.

a certain extent a l'Anglaise, follow the chase a l'Anglaise and interlard their conversation with English. They speak no more in French, but only of "high life," which is pronounced, very likely, to rhyme with fig leaf.

One does not receive cherubs, but is "at home," at "odd-even" when one wears not a robe d'intérieur, as formerly, but a "tea gown."

The last new society play is filled with English phrases, and the exquisite in it talk of going to spend the season in London. This last expression, I believe, the French in real life seldom make, though they may talk about it. In Dumas' play, "Le Fils Naturel," that ran most of the winter at the Odéon, a character is made to say: "I am afraid my daughter, that you are reading something forbidden, show it." "It is an English book, father; will you see it?" On this the father in a relieved tone says: "Oh, no; if it is in English, it is all right. You may continue."

There is no need to construe this dialogue as veiled sarcasm, meant to insinuate what other thoughtless French say openly, that "English literature is written only for children." It is literally a flattering appreciation of the high moral character of our Anglo-Saxon literature, a mania for which character it would seem more profitable to cultivate than the fashion in English tea gowns.



FOR "CROSS COUNTRY."

But the French, perhaps, do not well understand our literary reserve any more than they do our motives of conduct, and of these last, if we were to judge by the play first mentioned, they have a somewhat curious idea; for the one young woman in the piece that leads an irregular life explains her free conduct by saying that she is "much Angloised," that she was "raised after the American manner."

Fancy bringing the furnishings of Queen Anne across the Channel in to this land of heavy draperies and sculptured cornices; of Louis curved table legs and Boucher cherubs enlaid in gilt acanthus scrolls? It is surely an importation that will remain exotic, and should, for that matter, not being in harmony with the natural taste of the people.

Yet it is said that among a few in Paris Queen Anne furniture is all the rage; that in some elegant houses they have removed the graceful bed hangings that make the chief beauty of the French bedroom, suppressed the window draperies and the hangings of silk or cretonne that covered the walls and in their place have put a prim, undraped brass or lacquered wood bed straight legged tables, thin muslin window screens and English paper, with hieroglyphic flowers in regular repeats, and the very old-fashioned mixed and debased taste we know absurdly under the designation of "eclectic."

Ye shades of Louis XIV., if ye still haunt France, what must be your chagrin!



TEA GOWN L'ANGLAISE.

Parisian women of fashion now stay, after the English manner, in the country the greater part of the year, coming up to town only after Easter to make a short season.

To while away these long months some distractions are necessary, and for these also their eyes have been cast across the channel. They have seen the English women brilliant in active sports, and it has roused their emulation. They wish, above all things, to ride across country with the men and to follow the chase.

It is a tremendous innovation, and, apropos of it, a very pretty squabble of an amicable kind is going on, it is reported, between the women and the men.

The men stand it is said, on the assertion that a woman looks prettier with a fan in her hand than with a gun, and as it is a woman's chief function to look pretty, there is needed no discussion. Also that a short skirt and trousers is not a ravishing sight, and that a woman who wears a short skirt is likely to distract the chasers and spoil the legitimate fun.

The women, on their part, have replied that they are quite as equal to the sport as the men. "The age is past of silly women (femellettes), who faint at nothing and get up at noon. We are robust; we are vigorous; we are valiant. We can be on horseback with the aurochs; we are able to walk leagues at a stretch; we could at need even be excellent soldiers."

This is what they are reported to have said. I am giving it all at second hand and know nothing myself about the matter. But if it is true that French women are waking up to all this activity the fact is interesting.

France took up the scepter of politeness and art, dropped by Italy and has held it for 300 years. May she in time pass it on to England? Time was when the Englishman of fashion bought his horse in Italy and his hat in France; but for some time now the Frenchman has gone to London for his dress. Perhaps the women will follow suit, and possibly the initiative of taste in the twentieth century will be to the Anglo-Saxon race.

ADA BACHE-CONE.

## ABOUT TOILET TABLES.

### THE DRAPED AND PADDED HOME-CONFECTION.

Is No More to Be Seen—Neither the Marble-Topped Dressing Case—The French Dresser, the Plain Oak Table, or the Ancient Chest of Drawers Deck the Bower of Beauty.

The toilet table of the day, like most else in furniture, dress and decoration, is cut according to prevailing French ideas.

The most approved style is the low, highly polished, ornamented with Marqueterie, table, that requires one to be seated before it, in order to get a glimpse into its mirror.

True, it lacks one luxury that most women enjoy—a multitude of drawers; but the woman who is so luxurious as to own a French dresser, has usually many closets and wardrobes.

Again, the mirror is quite small; but a swinging cheval glass goes as an accessory.

The best of these French tables come for \$30 and few are priced over \$100. These are built of mahogany with rich elaborate inlays, or else of a highly polished metal used for this purpose, ornamented with silver, and each specimen of the toilet table of the day is the pride of a brilliant young married woman of the smart set.

The heavy metal frame is inlaid with silver, the mirror has a wide frame of fluted silver, and candelabra of silver flank either side. On this table is first spread a strip of chamamois to prevent the toilet articles from in any way marring or scratching the brilliant surface; over the chamamois is a cover made



FOR THE BOUDOIR.

from two five-inch strips of brocade satin ribbon, with entrecuisse and edges of duchess lace. The candles in the silver stick are rose-colored with cel-blue shades, matching the colors in the brocade cover.

On the brocade are laid out all the toilet articles so dear to the heart of the latter-day woman.

It is strange that this one small person should require thirty-five toilet articles to assist her in making her appearance before the world, but so it seems, I think she possesses everything that can be devised of silver to suit a separate need.

But it is the toilet table of an ultra-fashionable woman, one who has a separate bank note to cover each separate caprice.

The are hosts of women who have discovered that to possess a fine piece toilet table they need not spend much money. For these latest fancies in furniture are dedicated to many a heritage from a fair woman's grandmother. Stored away in old New York attics, covered by dust and scratches, were dressing tables that are now the envy of many rich women without grand-mothers.

But let no one suppose that these ancient tables are restored in an amateur fashion. Only a dealer who thoroughly understands the treatment of woods is trusted to polish them up. At the outset of the craze a large number of the perfect in shape, were ruined by ignorant polishing.

The French styles are never draped. As a usual thing the wood is so exquisitely inlaid that one would not wish to hide the design.

Next in mode to this extreme of fashion is the use of some old chest of drawers in handsome wood. These are furnished with a mirror hung above and do not possess an old mahogany set of drawers, more or less elegant.

Such a chest with a mirror hung above is furnishing many a smart woman's apartments.

If the chest is devoid of ornament, brass handles are bought and attached. The large mirror to hang above can be either square or long. A lining of satin is put in all the drawers, a layer of cotton batting underneath, sprinkled with sachet powder. When lavender is used the old time effect is complete. The ordinary square glass marble topped bureau of five years ago seems to be obsolete.

The mistake is now seldom made of draping a plain table around the legs, the effect of simplicity is sought. Where a decorative cover is used, it is usually made from satin ribbon and lace. The ribbons should be four inches wide and joined with open heavy yellow lace. These bands are sufficient. A cover should not come quite to the edge of the table. A ruffle of the lace is put around the whole and a thin piece of piece of chamamois or cotton flannel placed under. Many use pieces of brocade or plain silk, with the edges simply turned in, not hemmed.

Filled white Swiss covers are sometimes used, but not with the old orthodoxy pink or blue linings. They may have a satin butterfly bow at one end.

Cliffon is used as a cover for these dainty white mahogany dressers that are so very expensive but so very beautiful. With their fair owners the perfect cover is easily replaced. A double width piece of right length is creased and ironed down into one-inch folds. An accordion pleating of the material is laid all around the four edges and is sat in the center of the pleated at either end. If the room is hung in any light color the cliffon can match it.

Torchon or platte Valenciennes on cretonne or hangings is not considered tasteful. If the material is Swiss, silk muslin or any of the thin wash goods the trimming is made from the same. If of silk or satin is used, the rich open laces now in vogue form the trimming.

But invariably if the toilet table is in a room where one lives a great deal, the best decorator advises linen hem-stitched covers. These can go into the wash every week and therefore preserve a freshness that silk or Swiss lose after much use.

### AN AVERAGE OUTFIT.

The toilet articles usually depend on the wealth of the owner or the generosity of her friends. Here is the usual outfit:

Brush, comb and hand mirror; two cologne bottles; glove stretcher; two powder boxes, one for face powder and the other for glove; ten manicure implements, these all laid in a tray; ring stand; pin tray; hat and clothes brush; watch stand; button hook and glove buttoner.

The silver and jeweled bonbonnières that have gone out of their normal use to some extent, are used by many women to hold the red finger nail salve that is necessary for well cared for hands.

### BEST BRUSHES AND THEIR CARE.

I asked at a well known Broadway jeweler's which was best, the yellow or white bristles, in selecting brushes. I was told that it made no difference, except in the looks. All the best bristles were from the Russian bear. In their natural state they are the ugliest yellow which is retained for many brushes. But the whitening did not injure them. The bristles are split only twice to make stiff, hard brushes, several times to make them soft. The best brushes can be distinguished by the little bunches of bristles

being placed at the center above the hair with a white satin bow and the drapery hangs plainly down by the sides of the table without being caught. A cover is made in the same way of white cotton flannel, and laid over a strip of white cotton flannel.

Most women openly prefer washable covers; many use the ever dainty butcher's linen with wide hemstitched borders.

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### THE STYLE IN TOILET ARTICLES.

The most fashionable material used for toilet articles is carved burnt ivory. But this is within the reach of few as a single nail polisher costs \$25. Next to this in popularity comes repoussé silver. The plain silver is bought entirely for men.

Celuloid has gone out, but the imitation burnt ivory, which costs the same price, is used instead. This makes lovely toilet articles. A brush and comb of it costs only \$2.50, a mirror \$1.25. These, mingled with silver articles, look well.

Some of the extravagant "special" pieces are made of old silver mounted with carved ivory and of gold mounted in green jade.

Many of the colonial dressing tables have a full set of tortoise shell articles, but they are too perishable for real use. No matter how handsome the case may be that toilet articles come in, it should be relegated to the closet. I saw a dainty dressing table yesterday at the home of a debutante that was spoiled by having the yellow plush case holding an elaborate silver outfit that had been sent her placed intact in the center of the table.

### HARRYDELE HALLMARK.

#### An Odd Cure for Fainting.

In the current number of the Law Times some interesting stories are told of the late Baron Parke, afterward Lord Wensleydale. His love of the law is illustrated by the anecdote of his apologizing to his hostess for his late arrival at a party, on the ground that he could not tear himself away from a "beautiful demurrer." His passion for fresh air was such that on buying a handsomely furnished house his first order, it is said, was that all the bedposts should be sawed down, and the next that all the bed curtains should be burned. At Exeter he insisted on ventilation in a wholesale way, which wrought havoc with counsel and juries.

The best story of Baron Parke is perhaps that which tells how, one day, when summoned to advise the lords, he was seized with a fainting fit in the middle of his argument. Various remedies were applied without avail. At last a happy thought occurred to one of his brethren, who well knew his peculiar temperament. He rushed into the library, seized a large musty volume of old statutes, rushed back and held it to the nostrils of the patient. The effect was marvelous. He at once opened his eyes, gave them a rub, and in a few seconds was as well as ever.—London Globe.

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